

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 032336

15

ORIGIN NEA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66618

DRAFTED BY NEA/RA:EAPADELFORD:BAM

APPROVED BY NEA/RA:RWCHASE

----- 095047

R 191705Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO MIDEASTFOR

CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 032336

FOLLOWING STATE 032336 SENT ACTION AMEMBASSIES TEHRAN  
LONDON ABU DHABI JIDDA KUWAIT MANAMA INFO AMCONSUL  
DHAHRAN USCINCEUR DIA FEB 16TH. REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 032336

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJ: TRI-NATION NAVAL EXERCISE ARYA 74

1. DEPT HAS BEEN ASKED TO GIVE POLITICAL CONCURRENCE TO TRI-NATION (US/UK/IRAN) NAVAL EXERCISE ARYA 74, SCHEDULED FOR PERSIAN GULF/GULF OF OMAN MARCH 8-10. EXERCISE WILL INCLUDE 3 USN VESSELS (ALL FROM MIDEASTFOR), PLUS 5 RN SHIPS, AND 3 IRANIAN VESSELS.
2. PURPOSE OF EXERCISE IS TRAINING.FORCES WILL CONDUCT COMBINED SURFACE OPERATIONS WITH EMPHASIS ON GUNNERY, SEAMANSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS. IMPERIAL IRANIAN NAVY WILL BE DIRECTING HEADQUARTERS.
3. DEPT HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT EXERCISE WHICH WOULD INVOLVE THREE NON-ARAB NATIONS, AT TIME WHEN OUR RELATIONS WITH ARAB OIL PRODUCERS STRAINED BECAUSE OF OPEC EMBARGO AND FUTURE OF MIDEASTFOR FACILITIES ON BAHRAIN IN DOUBT.

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RECENT IRAN-IRAQ FRACAS ALSO CONTRIBUTING FACTOR. WILD

RUMOR THAT USG CONTEMPLATING MILITARY ACTION AGAINST ABU  
DHABI EVEN REPORTED FURTHER EVIDENCE OF ARAB CONCERN.

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4. DEP ALSO UNDERSTANDS, HOWEVER THAT EXERCISE APPARENTLY  
IRANIAN-INSPIRED, AND WOULD PREFER NOT TO OFFEND IRANIANS  
IF THIS CAN BE AVOIDED. IF EXERCISE COULD BE SHIFTED TO  
GULF OF OMAN, WE BELIEVE THAT POLITICAL PROBLEMS WOULD BE  
MUCH LESSENERED.

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5. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENTS SOONER. RUSH  
L UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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